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Joseph Letterberg, M. D.
Professor of Genetics
School of Medicine
Stanford University
Palo Alto, California

Dear Doctor Letterberg:

The Doctors in our group wish to compliment you on the insight into the problems encountered in practicing clinical medicine which was evident in your testimony before the United States Senate Committee on Government Operations, Subcommittee on Government Research as reported in the Saturday Review of May 6, 1967. Your following comment was particularly pertinent: "More important, a new industry must be vitalized on a large scale to pool the diverse talents needed for real innovation in medical machines. The necessary combination of biomedical in engineering skills does not exist." Although we own and manage a small corporation which is developing this combination, for all practical purposes, your comment is true.

In addition to the problems facing development in this field which you mentioned, I would like to suggest that you consider the following in any future advice which you may give to appropriate government agencies:

- 1) The tremendous increase in expense which will result if the legal community is able to enforce the doctrine of implied warranty regarding the performance of all medical tests and particularly those involving the use of machines.
- 2) The conflict which will exist between such organizations and hospitals.
- 3) The fact that such organizations, being of necessity, profit making in nature, cannot command the research grants necessary to make new developments in this field usable. As you can understand, it costs a great deal of money to train technicians where none exist, to evolve the organizational structures and to adapt the techniques to clinical use.
- 4) Possible legal, licensing and tax problems involved in corporate activity particularly in those states (notably California) which prohibit corporate medical practice.

Sincerely,


Edwin W. Amyes, M. D.
President, Bio Electronic Services, Inc.

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